Ministry of Textiles – Report for September, 2017

Important policy decisions taken and major achievements during the month

1. Policy decisions:

   i. Jute Packaging:- The existing norms under Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory use in packaging commodities) Act, 1987 regarding mandatory packaging of 90% of foodgrains and 20% sugar in jute material have been extended upto 31st December, 2017 by order dated 1st September, 2017.

   ii. Under the scheme of Remission of State Levies (ROSL) for boosting exports of garments and Made Ups, interim rates were notified on 28th September, 2017 on the recommendations of Drawback Committee.

   iii. The updated rates for ‘leggings’ under ROSL scheme were notified on 08th September, 2017.

2. Important Achievements:

   i. Inauguration of Deendayal Hastkala Sankul (Trade Centre & Crafts Museum): The First ever State-of-the-art trade center at Varanasi, Deendayal Hastkala Sankul was inaugurated by the Hon’ble Prime Minister of India on 22nd Sept.2017. The project, set up at a cost of about Rs 275 cr, would help the artisans and weavers of Varanasi and neighboring areas to market their products and showcase their skills, and also boost the tourism potential of Varanasi.

   ii. Hon’ble Minister of Textiles Smt Smriti Zubin Irani inaugurated VASTRA 2017 on 21 Sep 2017. VASTRA 2017 was jointly organized by Rajasthan State Industrial Development Investments Corporation Limited (RIICO) and Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry at Jaipur from 21-24 Sep 2017.

   iii. Regional Textile Conferences: The following Regional Textile Conferences were held under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Textiles) to review the progress of the schemes/programmes of the Ministry of Textiles:

   • Eastern Regional Textile Conference at Kolkata on 11.09.2017 for States of Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha and West Bengal
   • Southern Regional Textile Conference at Hyderabad on 15.09.2017 for States of Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Kerala and Puduchery
   • Western Regional Textile Conference at Mumbai on 19.09.2017 covering States of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Chattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Goa.
   • Northern Regional Textile Conference at Delhi on 27.09.2017 for States of Uttar Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Delhi, Punjab, Rajasthan, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and Uttrakhand
iv. MoU was signed with Punjab National Bank on 1st September 2017 for providing Interest subvention to Handicrafts artisans availing Mudra Loans.

v. Secretary (Textiles) took meeting with the banks on 13th September, 2017 to discuss the modalities to extend loans to the weavers under MUDRA scheme during the Hastkala Sahayog Shivirs to be organized from 7-17th October, 2017.

vi. In pursuance of meeting chaired by Cabinet Secretary on 07.09.2017 to initiate exercise for redefining the role and function of CPSEs, a meeting with the CMDs of Textile Sector CPSE held under chairpersonship of JS (MOT) on 18.09.2017 on the interactions in re-defining the role and functioning of CPSEs and for organizing Google Hangout for obtaining feedback from all the employees on 18 point agenda. Another meeting was held on 20.09.2017 by Secretary (Textiles) with Secretaries/Representatives of the Ministries/Departments in Group-III: Commerce, Trade and Financial Services to finalize the structure of interaction of Group-III CPSEs. Further, Ministry of Textiles being Nodal Ministry for Group-III CPSEs in Commerce, Trade and Financial Services organized a Brain Storming Session of Govt. nominee Directors on 20.09.2017 and discussed the Step-I agenda.

vii. **Exports:** India's T&A exports for the period April to August, 2017 has increased by 4.3% to US$ 15.636 billion from US$ 14.996 billion for April to August, 2016.

viii. **Arrival of Cotton and Procurements:** The All India arrival of cotton during the cotton year 2016-2017 (as on 20.09.2017) was 343.84 lakh bales and the same has increased by 3.57 vis-a-vis corresponding period of the previous year.

ix. **Training & Capacity Building:** Under Integrated Skill Development Scheme a total 6067 persons have been trained during the month of September 2017.

x. **Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme:** A total of 443 cases have been sanctioned under ATUFS in September-2017 with a project cost of Rs. 2282.81 Crores and subsidy requirement of Rs. 165.37 Crores.

xi. **In-Situ Upgradation of plain powerloom scheme:** During, September, 2017, total 5365 kits were fitted with an expenditure of **Rs. 886.93 lakhs.**

xii. **Modified Group Workshed Scheme:** A subsidy of Rs **2.13 crores** was released under the Modified Group Work-shed Scheme during September, 2017.

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